

Strengthening Oversight for Major Research Facilities: Requirements, Recommendations, and Actions

Fae Korsmo, Office of the Director

National Science Foundation

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Remaining “to-do” items for Major Research Facilities Oversight

AICA Requirements	BOAC Subcommittee Recommendations	NAPA Recommendations
Section 110(a)(2)(H): requires NSF to “ appoint a senior agency official whose responsibility is oversight of the development, construction, and operations of major multiuser research facilities across the Foundation.”	5.1: ...there should be a clearly-designated senior official in the Office of the Director... recommends that the Deputy Director/COO serve as this senior accountable official ... would then have discretion to staff the role as needed – whether that be placing direct staff in the OD or leveraging the LFO head to serve that function	_____
Section 110(a)(2)(C): establish policies and procedures for the planning, management, & oversight of a major multi-user facility project at each phase of the life-cycle of the major multi-user research facility project	3.1: Strengthen the role of the MREFC Panel during the project development stage... 3.2: Strengthen the role of the MREFC Panel during ops stage ... 4.4.4: ...should evaluate whether divestment should be considered for the facility... go through the MREFC Panel for review and recommendation to the Director	6.2: NSF should re-scope the role duties of the MREFC Panel & amend the Panel’s charge to specifically include... reviews of projects in the development & construction phases ...
Section 110(a)(2)(B): clarify the roles & responsibilities of all organizations ... involved in supporting a major multi-user research facility project, including the role of the MREFC Panel.	MREFC Panel is properly constituted for stage-gate reviews...but, do not confuse stage-gate reviews with high-level oversight.	6.2: NSF should re-scope the role duties of the MREFC Panel & amend the Panel’s charge to specifically include... reviews of projects in the development & construction phases...

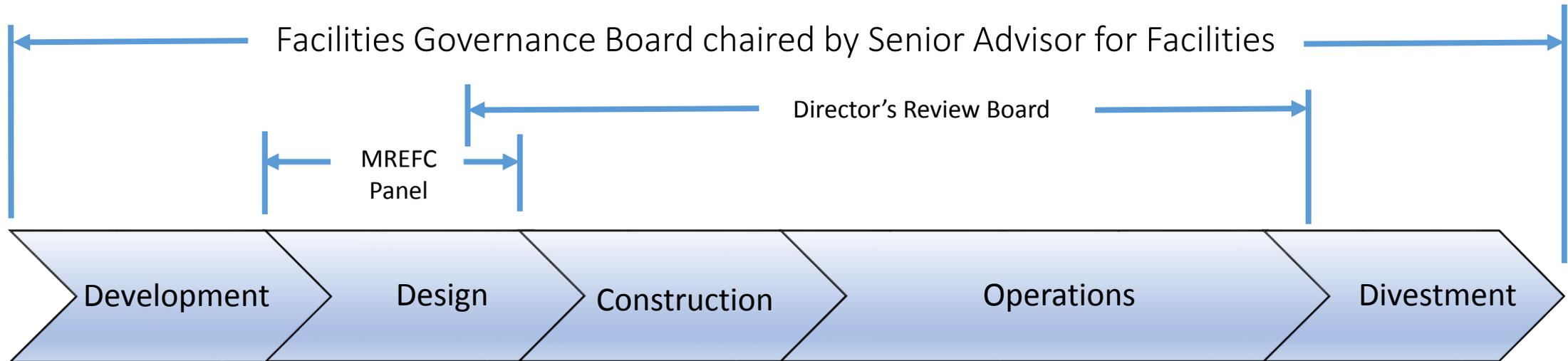
In response to AICA, NAPA, and BOAC, NSF will:

- Appoint a **Senior Advisor for Facilities**
- Establish a **Facilities Governance Board** of senior executives, chaired by the Senior Advisor for Facilities
- Require each facilities-sponsoring Directorate to designate an **Accountable Program Official**
- Clarify the roles and responsibilities of Directorate management and business assistance units
- Re-affirm the roles and responsibilities of the MREFC Panel for Design Stage and the Director's Review Board for quality assurance on NSB information and actions
- Engage the NSB in this process

The Senior Advisor for Facilities will:

- Serve as the Senior Accountable Official
- Chair the Facilities Governance Board and the MREFC Panel
- The Facilities Governance Board will:
 - Ensure communication, awareness, and assessment of risks throughout the facility lifecycle (Development through Divestment)
 - Exercise change control authority for policies and standard operating guidance that affect facilities and their sponsoring Directorates
 - Work with the Accountable Program Officials to foster communities of practice
 - Monitor special projects, e.g., agency coordination of electromagnetic spectrum management for research

Director and National Science Board



Accountable Program Officials

Business Assistance Units



Full Lifecycle Oversight

AICA Requirements	BOAC Subcommittee Recommendations	NAPA Recommendations	NSF Response
<p>Section 110(a)(2)(H): requires NSF to “appoint a senior agency official whose responsibility is oversight of the development, construction, and operations of major multiuser research facilities across the Foundation” ✓</p>	<p>5.1: ...there should be a clearly-designated senior official in the Office of the Director... recommends that the Deputy Director/COO serve as this senior accountable official... would then have discretion to staff the role as needed – whether that be placing direct staff in the OD or leveraging the LFO head to serve that function ✓</p>	<p>_____</p>	<p>Appoint a Senior Advisor for Facilities</p>
<p>Section 110(a)(2)(C): establish policies and procedures for the planning, management, & oversight of a major multi-user facility project at each phase of the life-cycle of the major multi-user research facility project ✓</p>	<p>3.1: Strengthen the role of the MREFC Panel during the project development stage... 3.2: Strengthen the role of the MREFC Panel during ops stage... 4.4.4: Evaluate whether divestment should be considered for the facility... go through the MREFC Panel for review and recommendation to the Director ✓</p>	<p>6.2: NSF should re-scope the role duties of the MREFC Panel & amend the Panel’s charge to specifically include...reviews of projects in the development & construction phases ✓</p>	<p>Establish a Facilities Governance Board to cover all lifecycle stages; designate Accountable Program Officials in Directorates</p>
<p>Section 110(a)(2)(B): clarify the roles & responsibilities of all organizations ... involved in supporting a major multi-user research facility project, including the role of the MREFC Panel ✓</p>	<p>MREFC Panel is properly constituted for stage-gate reviews...but, do not confuse stage-gate reviews with high-level oversight ✓</p>	<p>6.2: NSF should re-scope the role duties of the MREFC Panel & amend the Panel’s charge to specifically include... reviews of projects in the development & construction phases ✓</p>	<p>Reaffirm MREFC Panel and DRB Roles and Responsibilities</p>